

REMARKS

Claims 1-7, 12-18, 20-32, 37-43 and 45-51 are pending in this application.

Examiner rejects all pending claims.

Applicant thanks the examiner for granting an in-person interview with Applicant's representatives Won Joon Kouh (Reg. No. 42,763) and Peter Cronk (Reg. No. 32,021) on July 24, 2006 to discuss Applicant's proposed amendments to the claims. During the interview, Applicant's representatives discussed the features of the invention recited in the proposed amendments to the claims that distinguish the invention from the prior art of record as summarized in the examiner's Interview Summary.

Pursuant to the interview of July 24, 2006, Applicant hereby submits preliminary amendments to the pending claims as shown in the Listing of Claims, in conjunction with the accompanying RCE. Independent claims 1, 25, and 50 and dependent claims 3 and 28 are amended. Claims 22, 23, 47, 48, and 51 are canceled without prejudice.

After the entry of the amendments submitted herein, claims 1-7, 12-18, 20, 21, 24-32, 37-43, and 45, 46, and 49-50 remain pending.

For the reasons presented below, Applicant believes that the amended claims are allowable over the prior art of record and place the present application in condition for allowance.

Amendment to the Specification

The paragraph [0001] of the specification is amended to identify a related copending application.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 3-5, 12-18, 20, 25-30, 37-43, and 45-51 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by international patent application publication No. WO 01/31131 to Zeng *et al.* ("Zeng").

As summarized in the examiner's Interview Summary, Applicant believes that the amended independent claims 1, 25 and 50 are not anticipated by the Zeng reference and are allowable over the prior art of record. As for the remaining rejected claims, claims 47, 48 and 51 have been canceled and, thus, their rejections are moot.

Claims 3-5, 12-18, 20, 26-30, 37-43, 45, 46, and 49 depend from independent claims 1 and 25 and, thus, are also allowable. Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1, 3-5, 12-18, 20, 25-30, 37,43, 45, 46, 49, and 50 and their allowance are requested.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 2, 6-7, 21-23, 31-32 and 46-48 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Zeng in view of U.S. patent No. 4,671,979 to Adiletta ("Adiletta").

Claims 22, 23, 47 and 48 are canceled and, thus, their rejection are moot.

Claims 2, 6-7, and 21 depend from independent claim 1 and, thus, claims 2, 6-7, and 21 incorporate all limitations of the amended claim 1. Claims 31-32 and 46 depend from independent claim 25 and, thus, claims 31-32 and 46 incorporate all limitations of the amended claim 25. And because Adiletta does not cure the deficiencies of Zeng with respect to the allowability of the amended claims 1 and 25, the combination of Zeng and Adiletta cannot obviate the claims 2, 6-7, 21, 31-32 and 46 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). For example, Adiletta fails to teach or suggest the use of "scrap inorganic fibers containing formaldehyde-containing binder thereon" as required by the amended claims 1 and 25.

Furthermore, the disclosures of Zeng and Adiletta may not be combined as the examiner suggests because Zeng teaches away from Adiletta. For example, the insulation product of Adiletta is made with resin binder. (See Adiletta at col. 3, lines 61-65). In contrast, Zeng teaches the use of bicomponent polymer bonding fibers in lieu of the conventional resin binders to correct the problems associated with resin binders. (See Zeng at pg. 2, lines 3-20; pg. 3, lines 29-32; pg. 4, lines 12-15, 23-32; pg. 5, lines 30-31; pg. 6, lines 20-25).

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 2, 6-7, 21, 31-32 and 46 and their allowance are requested.

Terminal Disclaimers

Applicant submits terminal disclaimers with respect to the following three (3), commonly assigned, copending applications: Serial No. 10/806,544, filed on 03/23/2004; Serial No. 10/781,994, filed on 02/19/2004; and Serial No. 10/782,275, filed on 02/19/2004. Applicant hereby authorized the Commissioner of Patents to charge the terminal disclaimer fee of \$130 for each of the three accompanying terminal disclaimers for a total of **\$390** to Duane Morris LLP Deposit Account No. 04-1679.

CONCLUSION

Applicants believe that the pending claims as amended are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the present application, withdrawal of the rejections and allowance of the pending claims are kindly requested. Should the examiner disagree with the Applicant's position, a telephone interview is respectfully requested to discuss any remaining issues and expedite the eventual allowance of the application.

No additional claim fee is believed due for the filing of this amendment and response.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: August 14, 2006

____s/ Won Joon Kouh_____

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